Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A **single** biological sample storage device for storing and testing blood or blood products, comprising:

a container for receiving and storing blood or blood products **on day 1**; and

~~two or more compartments~~ **six outlets** for **subsequent** testing **of** the blood or blood products, wherein each of the ~~compartments~~ **outlets** comprises:

at least a first section for holding a portion of the blood or blood products, ~~and optionally for testing the portion of the blood or blood products~~ **a second section comprising a lysis buffer or an isotonic buffer**, and **a third section comprising at least two test reagents,**

wherein each of the ~~compartments~~ **outlets** is arranged as a protruding element from the container**, and wherein at least one of the two reagents is bound to a solid support or is lyophilized**.

2. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the first section ~~of each of the compartments is arranged contiguous~~ **in each outlet is in open connection** to the container so that the blood products can flow from the container to the first section.

3. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 2, wherein the first section **in each outlet** is ~~designed such that the first section can be~~ **permanently** sealed from the container ~~so that the blood products sealed into the first section can be used for~~ **immediately prior to** testing.

4. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 2, wherein ~~each of the compartments comprises at least one additional section for testing the portion of the blood or blood products held in the first section, said additional section being arranged in sealed contact with another portion of the first section, different from a portion of the first section in contact with the container~~ **the second section in each outlet is sealed off from the first**

section via a pressure sensitive seal, and wherein applied pressure causes the seal to break and the blood or blood product to mix with the lysis buffer or the isotonic buffer.

5. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim 4, wherein ~~the additional section comprises a pressure sensitive seal between the first section and the additional section that can broken by the application of pressure, such that breaking the seal in the additional section allows mixing of the contents of the first and additional sections~~ **the third section in each outlet is sealed off from the second section via a pressure sensitive seal, and wherein applied pressure causes the seal to break and the test reagents to mix with the lysed or isotonic blood or blood product**.

6-9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The device according to claim ~~13~~ 1, wherein the test reagents are a catalytic molecule and a reporter sequence.

15. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein said catalytic molecule is an inactivated ribozyme, a DNAzyme or a catalytic antibody.

16. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein the test reagents are an inactivated ribozyme and an RNA reporter sequence.

17. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the catalytic molecule and reporter sequence is immobilized to a solid support.

18. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the catalytic molecule and reporter sequence is in a lyophilized form.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn) A method of testing a blood or blood product for a target molecule indicative of contamination in said blood or blood product, comprising

providing a sample of a blood product in a compartment of the storage device for storing and testing blood or blood products, comprising:

a container for receiving and storing blood or blood products;

and at least one compartment for testing the blood or blood products, wherein said compartment comprises:

at least a first section for holding a portion of the blood or blood products, and optionally for testing the portion of the blood or blood products;

contacting the blood product in the compartment with a lysing buffer;

releasing the target molecule from the cells and protein in the blood product; and

detecting the presence of the target molecule.

21. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 20, wherein the target molecule is a 16S ribosomal RNA or a nucleic acid associated with a pathogen.

22. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 20 or 21, wherein the detecting step employs test reagents comprising a catalytic molecule and a reporter sequence.

23. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, wherein said catalytic molecule is an inactivated ribozyme, a DNAzyme or a catalytic antibody.

24. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, wherein said test reagents are an inactivated ribozyme and an RNA reporter sequence.

25. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 24, wherein the inactivated ribozyme binds to the target molecule, which activates the ribozyme that cleaves the RNA reporter sequence and releases a detectable sequence.

26. (Withdrawn) A method of testing a blood or blood product for a target molecule indicative of contamination in said blood or blood product, comprising

providing a sample of a blood product in a compartment of the storage device for storing and testing blood or blood products, comprising:

a container for receiving and storing blood or blood products;

and at least one compartment for testing the blood or blood products, wherein said compartment comprises:

at least a first section for holding a portion of the blood or blood products, and optionally for testing the portion of the blood or blood products;

contacting the blood product in the compartment with a buffer to dilute the sample; and

detecting the presence of the target molecule.

27. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 26, wherein the target molecule is a protein associated with a pathogen.

28. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 26 or 27, wherein the detecting step employs test reagents comprising a catalytic molecule and a reporter sequence.

29. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 28, wherein said catalytic molecule is an inactivated ribozyme or catalytic antibody.

30. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 28, wherein said test reagents are an inactivated ribozyme and an RNA reporter sequence.

31. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 30, wherein the inactivated ribozyme binds to the target molecule which activates the ribozyme that cleaves the RNA reporter sequence and releases a detectable sequence.

32. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the device comprises a biological sample.

33. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 32, wherein the biological sample comprises blood or a blood product.

34. (Previously Presented) The device according to claim 33, wherein the blood product comprises blood platelets.